# City of Glendale Utility Users Tax Funding Elimination Initiative



#### **General Fund Revenues**

 Approximately 73.7% of the City's major revenues consist of four revenue sources for FY 2015-16 budget:

	<b>%</b>	\$
Property Taxes	26.8	49,740,000
Sales Taxes	20.3	37,700,000
UUT	15.2	28,250,000
Transfer from Utilities	11.4	21,257,000



# **UUT Rate Comparison**

	Glendale	Burbank	Pasadena	Los Angeles
Electricity	7.00%	7.00%	7.67%	10.00%
Water	7.00%	-	7.67%	-
Gas	7.00%	7.00%	7.90%	10.00%
Communication	6.50%	7.00%	8.28% - 9.40%	9.00%

•In 2009 Glendale voters approved a rate reduction for Telecommunications and Video (reduced from 7% to 6.5%)



## **Average UUT Cost per Residence**

FY 2015-16 Budget

<b>UUT Category</b>	Budget	Population*	Annual Per Capita	Monthly Per Capita	Weekly Per Capita
Electricity	\$12,000,000	199,182	\$60.25	\$5.02	\$1.16
Water	2,950,000	199,182	\$14.81	\$1.23	\$0.28
Gas	2,550,000	199,182	\$12.80	\$1.07	\$0.25
Communication	10,750,000	199,182	\$53.97	\$4.49	\$1.04
TOTAL	\$28,250,000		\$141.83	\$11.81	\$2.73



<sup>\*</sup> Population is based on Department of Finance estimates

### 90% Say Glendale is a Great Place to Live

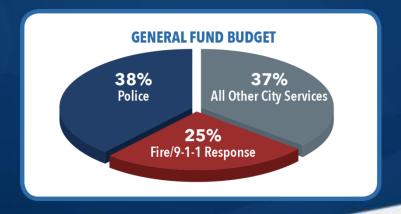
- Glendale has a long tradition of safe neighborhoods, good schools and a vibrant business community
- A recent survey found that 90% of Glendale residents rate our city as a great place to live
- Residents place a high value on our prime location, safe neighborhoods and strong quality of life





# **City Government Downsized During the Recession**

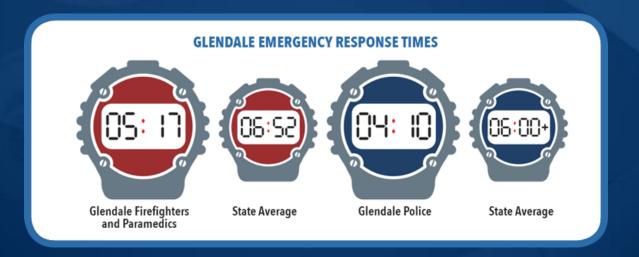
- The slowing of the economy reduced Glendale's city budget by \$29.5 million
- Eight consecutive years of deep cuts since 2008
- Cuts included the elimination of 406 city employee positions, a reduction of 25% of the City's workforce
- Strong efforts were made to protect public safety services like 9-1-1 response, police patrols and fire protection from cuts
- Police, fire and paramedics account for 63% of the current, reduced budget and further reductions would require cuts to these public safety and emergency response services





#### Maintaining Rapid Emergency Response Times, Despite Cuts

 The City of Glendale Fire Department and Police Department are among the fastest responders to emergencies in the state





#### **Proactive Reforms to Control Costs**

- In order to control long-term costs,
   Glendale became one of the first
   cities in California to voluntarily
   implement pension reforms to limit
   future employee retirement costs
- Glendale city employees pay a larger share of their own retirement costs than employees of any other city in the state
- By leading the way with these reforms, Glendale's two-tier retirement system is saving millions of dollars





## **Upcoming Vote: Initiative to Eliminate UUT Funding**

- A small group of individuals collected signatures to qualify an initiative for the upcoming June 2016 ballot
- If approved by local voters, this initiative would permanently eliminate
   Glendale's Utilities Users Tax (UUT) on electricity, gas and water
- Glendale's UUT generates \$17.5 million in locally controlled revenue every year
- It has been in place since 1969 and was reaffirmed by 66% of local voters in 2009
- The UUT is the third largest source of revenue for Glendale city services
- This initiative is NOT city sponsored



#### What Your Vote on UUT Funding Elimination Initiative Means

- A <u>yes</u> vote means:
  - \$17.5 million in cuts to public services
  - Impacts to emergency call response times
  - Eliminating police officers
  - Eliminating firefighters
  - And more cuts
- A <u>no</u> vote means:
  - Maintaining \$17.5 million in annual UUT funding
  - Maintaining city services at current levels





# **Impact of Further Funding Cuts for City Services**



- Eliminating annual UUT funding would:
  - Eliminate 53 full-time sworn police officer positions
  - Eliminate 37 firefighter positions
  - Close the equivalent of two Fire Stations
  - Eliminate the Police Department's DNA Crime Lab



# Impact of Further Funding Cuts for City Services

- Eliminating annual UUT funding would also:
  - Reduce the number of on-duty paramedics
  - Eliminate specialized Fire Department Emergency Service personnel, including the emergency preparedness unit, the arson investigator, hazardous materials response team and the search and rescue team
  - Eliminate youth anti-gang and anti-drug prevention programs
  - Reduce pothole repair and maintenance of city streets, storm drains and other critical city facilities and infrastructure
  - Close most libraries in Glendale and eliminate librarians and library staff



#### **Tell Us What You Think**

- In preparation for the vote on the Glendale UUT Funding Elimination Initiative, the City is identifying and prioritizing potential cuts
- Please contact us with your priorities for increasing 9-1-1 response times, eliminating over 50 police officers, eliminating nearly 40 firefighters and other cuts
- Visit our website with your comments and questions at: www.GlendaleUUT.com

